

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG: FAO: ECAFE

SUBJ: PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

REF A. ROME 4270 B. STATE 62731

1. SUMMARY: PROPOSED COMMITTEE WILL BE DISCUSSED IN PLENARY MARCH 30. POSITION PAPER SUFFICIENT FOR EXPECTED DEBATE. CLOSED DISCUSSION AT HEADS OF DEL MEETING TODAY INDICATES STRONG CONSENSUS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF ECAFE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT WITHOUT STRUCTURAL LINK WITH FAO BUT FULLY COOPERATIVE WITH IT THROUGH SERVICING BY PRESENT JOINT/ECAFE/FAO AGRICULTURAL DIVISION. END SUMMARY.

2. AT HEADS OF DELS CLOSED MEETING, EXSEC MARAMIS DESCRIBED DIFFERENCE WHICH STILL EXISTS BETWEEN FAO AND ECAFE OVER ESTABLISHMENT NEW COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: FAO DIRGEN THINKS IT SHOULD BE A JOINT BODY WITH FORMAL STRUCTURAL LINK WITH FAO BUT MARAMIS BELIEVES IT SHOULD JUST BE SPONSORED BY ECAFE ONLY. HE THEN ASKED FOR VIEWS.

3. JAPANESE REP STRONGLY SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF A
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SEPARATE COMMITTEE NOTING THAT IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RECO-

COMMENDED BY EUCAFE PERMANENT REPS. HE CLAIMED THAT JAPAN WAS FLEXIBLE ABOUT THE TERMS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN FAO AND ECAFE AND NOTED THAT JOINT FAO/EAFE DIVISION WOULD SERIVECE THIS COMMITTEE. NETHERLANDS ALSO STRONGLY SUPPORTED NEW COMMITTEE FOR SAME REASONS AS JAPAN ADDING THAT SINCE ECAFE HAS ITS OWN AGRICULTURAL COMITTEE, ECAFE SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO HAVE ONE ALSO.

4. UK REP INDICATED APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE IN PRINCIPLE BUT RECOMMENDED THAT COMMISSION SHOULD PAUSE UNTIL FULL AGREEMENT REACHED WITH FAO ON TERMS OF REFERNCE, MARAMIS IMMEDIATELY DENIED DISAGREEMENT WITH FAO EXISTED OVER TERMS OF REFERENCE CLAIMING THAT STRUCTURAL LINK IS ONLY ISSUE REMAINING.

5. VIETNAM DEL STRNGLY SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW COMMITTEE BUT WARNED THAT RESOURCES SHOULD NOT BE WASTED OR EFFORTS DUPLICATED. FRANCE WAS REASSURED BY MARAMIS THAT NEW COMMITTEE WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY JOINT ECAFE/FAO DIVISION. AFTER AUSTRALIA DECLARED THAT ITS SUPPORT FOR NEW COMMITTEE WAS BASED ON ASSUMPTION THERE WOULD BE NO DUPLICATION, MARAMIS ANNOUNCED HE HAD CONSLUDED FROM DEBATE THAT ALL WOULD AGREE TO NEW COMMITTEE WHEN IT WAS DISCUSSED UNDER AGENDA ITEM 5 ON ECAFE REORGANIZATION ON 30 MARCH.

6. DURING PLEANARY DEBATE WE SHALL INDICATE THAT US FAVORS ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE PROVIDED THAT THE "FORMAL ACTION ESTABLISHING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SHOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT ITS ACTIVITIES ARE FULLY COOPERATIVE BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS (FAO AND ECAFE) AND IT WILL BE SERVICED AND ITS ACTIVITIES COORDINATED BY THE JOINT DIVISION" IN ACCORDANCE WITH US POSITION DESCRIBED IN UNEC D-138/74.
VAN HOLLEN

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